

ADR Practitioners Lunchtime Webinar Series

November 2, 2012 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Registration Information

Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat below:

<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/547211294>

Topic: How Mediators Can Walk Their Talk Within the Mediation Community: A New Grid

Why is it that mediators' behavior when they encounter conflict within their field is sometimes at odds with their espoused beliefs about handling differences? Mediators are highly skilled at helping other people sort out disputes. They are repeat players in conflict (Mayer, 2004), able to operate in the 'eye of the storm' of conflict (Adler, 2008), and believe that most disputes are best managed in a collaborative way using effective communication techniques (Moore, 2003).

When mediators encounter differences with their colleagues, some seem to use approaches which are inconsistent with the collaborative ethos of mediation. Robert Benjamin (2004) calls it our 'dirty little secret' - which the field tends to suppress, deny or avoid conflict. Could it be that mediators are applying the adage '...do as I say, not as I do' (Sheldon, 1927)?

Ewan's research demonstrates that there can at times be a dissonance between the words and actions of mediators when they are in dispute with other groups of mediators. Furthermore, this gap between our beliefs as conflict professionals and our behaviors can adversely impact on our credibility as mediators. When discussing our most difficult issues, we have a perfect opportunity to model the shift from debate to dialogue.

The aim of this webinar is to explore approaches that mediators can use in order to manage most effectively the inevitable differences that arise because of the wide diversity of professional backgrounds, training, and needs within the mediation community.

Presenter: Ewan Malcolm

Ewan Malcolm, LL.B, NP, MSc is a full time mediator, trainer and researcher. His diverse practice mostly brings him into the middle of emotionally charged conflicts which are of high value to the disputants. His research for his Masters dissertation at the University of London has focused on how groups of mediators experience disputes with other mediators.

After nearly two decades as a lawyer, in 2002 Ewan was appointed as the first Chief Officer of the Scottish Mediation Network (www.scottishmediation.org).

In 2008 he was named the first Mediator of the Year at the Law Awards of Scotland. He is Director of Training for CALM, the association of Family Law Mediators accredited by the Law Society of Scotland.

He presently lives in New York City where he is Vice President of the Greater New York Chapter of ACR and was its 2012 Conference Chair.
www.ewanmalcolm.com

Brought to you by the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO)

The purpose of the series is to bring topics of interest to Maryland ADR practitioners. Each quarter, ADR practitioners will be able to participate in a 60 minute presentation from the comfort of their telephone and computer. **Watch** for the upcoming webinars.

Feel free to bring your lunch!